

Recording Thoughts and Wishes



Refer to the following pages as you record responses to the following questions in a journal you will keep.

1. What is your wish for today's generation of learners?
[Write a sentence of 25 words or less.]
2. How, if at all, does this wish relate to the needs of humanity?
3. What is your basic belief about humanity or about the positive intentions of human beings?
4. Your planning process will serve as the architecture for turning wishes into realities. Once you find a line that connects wishes, beliefs, research and planning, your own North Star will become visible and constant. You can continually journal your thoughts as you follow a curriculum design consistent with the integrated education plan you discuss with colleagues. How will you incorporate what you've learned in these sessions?
5. Imagine how your students can bring about the best of what's possible over time. If they were to fulfill your wishes and beliefs, describe what society would look like in 25 years.
6. Imagine how your North Star vision and collective planning could influence the well-being of others around the world.

(Scroll down for *Thoughts to Consider*.)

Thoughts to Consider

The Wish

An impromptu response to the wish question brings a variety of replies from different educators. You may have wished for a certain quality among your students, such as joy and purpose in learning or a sense of how to love and be loved; or you may have wished for a certain condition they would enjoy, such as access to food, shelter, health, education, etc. If the latter is true, by the end of this process, they may be the ones generating that condition for the rest of society!

Beliefs

The premise upon which you layer all your interactions with others begins with a basic trust in the goodness of human beings. You may have other beliefs as well that influence your wish and your capacity to hold fast to a vision. Carefully seek out your driving motivator or belief as one sentence that helps to hold up your star.

The Planning Process

Your planning process will serve as the architecture for turning wishes into realities. To the extent that you revisit and fine tune the line that connects wishes, beliefs, research and planning, your own North Star will remain visible and constant in your life. Life's unanticipated events can shift you in a new direction that changes the planning steps without altering your basic sense of purpose. The other sessions in this course introduce a system for customizing and scaffolding your unit plans and creating pacing guides.

25-Year Vision

Ask yourself and/or your teaching team what the world would look like if the world reflected your wishes and planning actions for 25 years. How could your community transform? How might lives improve? This question is designed to help you envision the practical, long-term results of your work, knowing that these results rest not only in your hands but in the actions, careers, mindsets and community culture carried on by those you will teach. Imagine the systems they will create, the norms they will protect, restore or reform, and the service they will render as you imagine this vision. Meditate on the vision again any time you have a hard day – or a good day!

Global Transformation

Often the transformative vision multiplies the impact of the 25-year vision or imagines what a series of wisdom exchanges might do to turn local impact into global transformation.